

STORET Conference Call – August 7, 2003 12:00-1:00 PM Eastern Time

Introduction (Cary McElhinney)

- The minutes from all previous conference calls are available over the web: <http://www.epa.gov/storet/confcalls.html>
- The next scheduled call will be September 25th, 2003 12:00-1:00 PM Eastern Time. Call in number is (202) 275-0170 access code 8191#
- If you have a special topic you'd like to lead for an upcoming call, please email mcelhinney.cary@epa.gov
- EPA would like to hear comments you have on the quality of these conference calls. Please send them to storet@epa.gov
- Please subscribe to the STORET automated listserver for announcements regarding conference calls: <http://www.epa.gov/storet/listserv.html>

Update from STORET Team

Changes to STORET HQ Team

- Karen Klima, who was assisting the STORET Team with outreach and meeting efforts has left EPA to take a job with USGS
- Peter Grevatt has replaced Margarete Heber as Chief of the Monitoring Branch

Regional Coordinators Workshop

- We had most of the EPA STORET Regional Coordinators in Washington, DC a few weeks ago for a few days of discussion and strategy sessions and a few days of training
- A few changes to the coordinator roster have been made and updated on the STORET website: http://www.epa.gov/storet/regional_contacts.html

Upcoming Workshops/Meetings

- The STORET HQ Team will be hosting a general training open to all users September 16-18.
- Additional training sessions will be held this fall in Chicago, IL and Boston, MA...dates on STORET website: <http://www.epa.gov/storet/training.html>
- We've decided to push back the STORET v3.0 requirements meeting to October. That meeting is still tentative and updates will be posted to the STORET website.
- We held an initial "kick-off" meeting with EPA Office of Water program managers. STORET has been designated as sole repository for water monitoring data for the Office of Water.
- These meetings are intended to collect new requirements for future versions of STORET.
- Anyone that can travel to Washington, DC is welcome to participate.

SIM v2.0

- SIM v2.0 has been officially released. The application can be downloaded from the STORET website under the "Updates/Downloads" area: <http://www.epa.gov/storet/updates.html>
- Please make sure to read the "readme" file and the Install Guide before attempting to install SIM v2.0
- You must have STORET v2.0 and STORET Report Module v2.0 installed before you can install SIM v2.0
- You also must remove SIM v1.2 before installing SIM v2.0

Enhancements to Report Module v2.0

- An update to STORET Report Module v2.0 has been released called STORET Report Module v2.0.1. New reports have been added under the “File Exports” area and will export result data.
- These new reports are being built based on performance problems we’ve heard from users using the existing “Result Details” export. For users with really large datasets, you should see the new exports work in seconds, not hours like before.
- The update can be downloaded off the STORET website under the “Updates/Downloads” area: <http://www.epa.gov/storet/updates.html>
- You must have STORET Report Module v2.0 installed before installing the update v2.0.1. Please read the “readme” install instructions before attempting to install the update.

Progress on redesign of central STORET Warehouse

- We are still working on the development of a complete v2.0 Data Warehouse.
- We’re asking users to please test the BETA warehouse and provide comments to us at http://oaspub.epa.gov/storpubl/dw_home
- We expect to receive the warehouse package from the developers in the Sept/Oct timeframe. So hopefully the new warehouse will be in operation sometime in late October.

Reference Table Upgrade

- We are currently working on updating the database reference tables, mostly making changes to the Characteristics table.
- This update will be for STORET v2.0, and will be posted the web in the next month or two.

Special Topic: STORET and Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

- Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) asked that a discussion be led regarding various uses of STORET with GIS. MDE is in the early implementation phases of STORET and is interested in experiences thus far using STORET in a GIS environment
- At EPA, there are 2 efforts underway to implement STORET in a web-GIS environment.
- The first is the Office of Water managed application called EnviroMapper for Water: <http://www.epa.gov/waters/enviromapper/index.html>
- The application currently displays Legacy STORET data, along with other water information such as impaired waters, water quality standards, beach closure information.
- We’re working on adding modern STORET to EnviroMapper and should have an updated release this fall.
- The second effort at EPA is with the Office of Environmental Information managed application called Window to My Environment: <http://www.epa.gov/enviro/wme/>
- Modern STORET data should be added to this application by the end of the year
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's Environmental Data Access Website allows users to find Minnesota surface water monitoring sites, and view or download monitoring data from those sites. The website provides both a GIS interface and a text-based query tool to allow the user to locate monitoring sites. Once a STORET monitoring site is selected, the user can see data from both legacy and modernized STORET. The system also contains non-STORET data such as Minnesota biological monitoring data

- and NPDES permitted discharge summaries:
<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/data/eda/index.html>
- NJ Dept of Environmental Protection has an internal ArcIMS based application to run spatial queries on both Legacy and Modern STORET data.

Open Q/A and Comment Period

1. Will there be training materials for STORET v2.0? (MDE)
 - Yes. Training materials for various components of STORET v2.0 are in the works and should be ready soon. All materials will be posted the STORET website.
2. Is anyone dealing with security issues when displaying well information through an internet GIS?
 - NJ is hiding well information on their internal application – hot topic
 - EPA has drinking water information hidden to the public, but uses in internal GIS applications
3. Which clay characteristic should I use when doing a sediment analysis of sand, silt, and clay? (MDE)
 - Check the characteristics list in STORET v2.0 for updated characteristics
4. Can one single sediment sample that is analyzed separately for sedimentology, chemical analysis, and trace metals be managed under the same trip? (MDE)
 - Yes.
5. Can multiple imports be done with SIM? (NY)
 - Yes, SIM can handle multiple concurrent sessions. Setting under System Configuration handles this.
6. Are lab remarks included in SIM v2.0? (NJ)
 - No, we'll add them to the next incremental SIM upgrade hopefully in a few months. We're also looking for feedback from users on the current list of lab remarks.
7. Are result comments in SIM?
 - Yes.
8. How do I handle historic data that have erred lab methods tied to them? (MDE)
 - Check to see if one of the lab remarks will work as a disclaimer, which would make it easier to query around this data. Otherwise try using the comment field.
9. Will there ever be a way to share Characteristic Groups across STORET Organizations? (NJ)
 - It's something that's been on our list for sometime, but is very complicated to do. The design for STORET v3.0 could include something like this.
10. Is there a way to split Organizations data? (NJ)
 - Again, very complicated and dangerous. You'd need the assistance of a DBA with good knowledge of STORET to assist you.
11. How do I assign data to a station in Washington, DC which has no county? (MDE)
 - The system shouldn't force a county selection for DC, or there may be a N/A choice.
12. Has a date been set for dropping support for STORET v1.2? (NJ)
 - Not yet. Now that SIM v2.0 is out, we'll try and set a schedule.
13. Will the Data Warehouse allow queries by external Station ID's? (NJ)
 - It will be in the v2.0 Data Warehouse released this fall
14. Any progress on the USGS -NWIS agreement? (NJ)
 - None to report, though still on our front burner of things to do.
15. When I add new data to an existing trip using SIM, it seems to ignore my Trip ID and create a new one? (TN)

- Check the instruction for Trip ID on your SIM profile, it may be set to have SIM generate one for you.

Participants on call (based on who emailed storet@epa.gov)

Lee Manning	US EPA HQ
Cary McElhinney	US EPA HQ
Dan Parker	US EPA HQ
Kevin Christian	US EPA HQ
Mary Ann Silagy	Ohio EPA
James R. Adkins	West Virginia Division of Water Resources
Christine Daugherty	West Virginia Division of Water Resources
Janice Smithson	West Virginia Division of Water Resources
John Wirts	West Virginia Division of Water Resources
Thomas R. Dallaire	MA DEP
Joan Aguilo	FL DEP
Terry Frohm	FL DEP
Karen Bickford	FL DEP
Julian Simonelli	FL DEP
Nancy Lewis	FL DEP
Deb Soule	NH DES
Paul Morton	NJ DEP
Scott Brown	KS DHE
Jim Porter	MN Pollution Control Agency
Tad Schindler	MN Pollution Control Agency
Bruce Tuttle	Idaho Dept of Water Resources
Linda Cartwright	Tennessee DEC
Dawn Anderson	MT DEQ
Dwane Young	RTI
Debra Merrill	Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Curtis Cude	OR DEQ
Joost Korpel	Iowa
Michael E. McCary	Alabama Department of Environmental Management
RoseAnn Garry	New York State DEC
Margaret Novak	New York State DEC
Bill Andrews	New York State DEC
Jill Savage	New York State DEC
Jim Dorsch	CO Metro Wastewater Reclamation District
Erik W. Leppo	Tetra Tech, Inc.
Carlton Washburn	MDE
John Hill	MDE
Elinor Zetina	MDE
Santha Kurian	MDE
Priya Papili	MDE
Arnold Gray	???